

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 046

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 9497

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PORG, ECIN, KE, SO, ET, TZ, UG

SUBJ: FONMIN DISCLOSES SOMALI OVERTURE AND CALLS FOR NEW
AFRICAN COMMUNITY

1. FONMIN WAIYAKI SPEAKING BEFORE NAIROBI PRESS CLUB JULY
26 DISCUSSED RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA AND
PORTRAYED KENYAN RELATIONS WITH BOTH COUNTRIES AS IMPROVING.
HE REITERATED GOK DETERMINATION NOT TO SURRENDER "ONE SQUARE
MILLIMETER" OF TERRITORY, SAYING THAT IF SOMALIA RESPECTS
THIS RESOLVE BILATERAL RELATIONS CAN IMPROVE. HOWEVER, HE
EXPRESSED SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING FOR GOS POSITION ON
"GREATER SOMALIA" AND PRESSURES GOS FACING TO REDEEM PLEDGES
TO THE PEOPLE ABOUT ACQUISITION OF OGADEN AND KENYA'S NORTHERN
REGION. WAIYAKI ALSO DISCLOSED THAT GOS HAD RECENTLY
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PROPOSED SOME KIND OF "POLITICAL FEDERATION" WITH KENYA, A
MOVE, HE SAID, WHICH COULD NOT BE RULED OUT IN THE FUTURE.

2. KENYA AND ETHIOPIA REMAIN "GREAT FRIENDS" HE SAID, AND
ON BEING ASKED WHETHER THE KENYA-ETHIOPIA MILITARY AGREEMENT
REMAINS IN EFFECT HE REPLIED THAT KENYA'S PRACTICE IS TO
HAVE RELATIONS WITH STATES, NOT WITH "GOVERNMENTS." PRESSED

AS TO WHAT OBLIGATIONS KENYA WOULD HAVE TOWARD ETHIOPIA UNDER THE AGREEMENT, HE SAID, "WE HAVE EVERY OBLIGATION TO ETHIOPIA, --BUT DON'T ASK ME TO TELL YOU WHAT THEY ARE."

3. FONMIN ALSO SUGGESTED, ON SUBJECT OF RECENT DEMISE OF EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, THAT ANY SUCCESSOR COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE MORE MEMBERS, SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID IT SHOULD INCLUDE ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA, SUDAN, UGANDA, TANZANIA, RWANDA, BURUNDI, ZAMBIA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND (SIC) ZAIRE. WAIYAKI SAID RECENTLY DECEASED COMMUNITY HAD TOO FEW MEMBER STATES TO COPE WITH PROBLEM OF INDIVIDUAL STATES' DEFFERING NEEDS AND GOALS.

4. COMMENT: SOMEWHAT GRANDIOSE PROPOSAL FOR WIDER MULTI-NATION COMMUNITY APPEARS, IN PRESENT EAST AFRICAN POLITICAL SITUATION, TO BE MORE OF A PUBLIC RELATIONS GESTURE THAN SERIOUS UNDERTAKING. KENYA HAS ALWAYS BEEN LOYAL TO PAN-AFRICAN IDEAL, AND NEW PROPOSAL BY REAFFIRMING THIS SENTIMENTAL COMMITMENT SEEMS DESIGNED TO HAVE EFFECT OF OFF-SETTING TANZANIAN CRITICISM OF KENYA'S ROLE IN DEATH OF EAC.

5. THE NOTION OF "FEDERATION" WITH SOMALIA IS A REVIVAL OF AN OLD PROPOSAL. AS WAIYAKI HAS PRIVATELY MADE CLEAR, PROSPECTS FOR IMPLEMENTING IT ARE VIRTUALLY NIL UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT IT HAS UTILITY AS A SYMBOL OF BOTH COUNTRIES' DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS.

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